VZCZCXRO4301 RR RUEHDE RUEHMA RUEHPA DE RUEHOS #1043 2091603 ZNR UUUUU ZZH R 281603Z JUL 06 FM AMCONSUL LAGOS TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 7706 INFO RUEHZK/ECOWAS COLLECTIVE RUEHHH/OPEC COLLECTIVE RUEHUJA/AMEMBASSY ABUJA 7652 RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON 0675 RULSDMK/DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION WASHDC RUCPDOC/DEPT OF COMMERCE WASHDC RUEAHLC/HOMELAND SECURITY CENTER WASHINGTON DC RUEAIIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC RHMCSUU/DEPT OF ENERGY WASHINGTON DC RHEFDIA/DIA WASHINGTON DC RUFOADA/JAC MOLESWORTH AFB UK RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHDC RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC

UNCLAS LAGOS 001043

SIPDIS

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED - HANDLE ACCORDINGLY SIPDIS

STATE PASS DOE FOR GPERSON AND CGAY

STATE PASS TREASURY FOR ASEVERENS AND SRENENDER

STATE PASS DOC FOR PHUPER

STATE PASS TRANSPORTATION FOR MARAD STATE PASS OPIC FOR CDUFFY

STATE PASS TDA FOR BTERNET STATE PASS EXIM FOR JRICHTER

STATE PASS USTR FOR ASST USTR SLISER

STATE PASS USAID FOR GWEYNAND AND SLAWAETZ

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: <u>EPET PGOV ASEC PTER PINR NI</u> SUBJECT: YOUTHS CONTINUE TO HOLD AGIP WORKERS; SHELL MOVES

TO CONTAIN OIL SPILL IN RIVERS

REF: LAGOS 1029

- (SBU) ConocoPhillips management, joint venture partner for AGIP, confirmed that local youths continued to hold approximately forty AGIP employees at an AGIP flow station in Bayelsa State (reftel). The AGIP employees have now been confined to the flow station for three days. ConocoPhillips reports no casualties. The AGIP Deputy Managing Director told us two negotiators from Bayelsa State and one from AGIP were negotiating with the community. He said part of the community's grievances stem from the Nigerian Navy's seizure of two boats from the village. Local press accounts indicate the community is dis-satisfied with AGIP's implementation of community development activities under their Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).
- 12. (SBU) Shell executives report the Bille community in Rivers State initially prevented Shell from accessing the Nembe Creek pipeline rupture (reftel). Shell now has access to the area, and crews are working to mitigate the significant oil spill. Once pollution prevention measures are in place, Shell will investigate whether the pipeline was deliberately vandalized or ruptured due to corrosion or other technical issues.
- (SBU) Shell confirmed it has declared "force majeure" for deliveries of Bonny Light crude from their Bonny Island Export Terminal, saying they may have difficulty meeting some deliveries from late July through August. With international markets casting an increasingly worried eye at Nigeria, Shell emphasized their declaration is merely a precautionary market warning. A Shell executive told us they will make contracted deliveries of Bonny Light, but remain uncertain if they will reach the full quantity for all shipments.